(b) if so, whether the University of Hyderabad in association with US-based Rockfeller Foundation, has initiated the process of elucidating drought-tolerant rice varieties, using molecular and genomic technologies;

(c) whether the research project is part of the National Rice Network Programme of ICAR;

(d) if so, to what.extent the research has been found successful; and

(e) to what extent it would be helpful to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Univesity of Hyderabad in association with the US-based Rockfeller Foundation, has initiated the research project for genetic improvement of rice for water limited environments.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise, Sir.

(e) So far, no rice variety has been identified for drought tolerance under this project.

Integrated Dairy Development in A.P.

1783. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present Status of Integrated Dairy Development Project in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) what has been the achievement of the project in that State, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Government of India had approved an Integrated Dairy Development Project in Non Operation

Flood, Hilly and Backward Areas (IDDP) of Andhra Pradesh State during the year 1995-96 with a total outlay of Rs. 447.32 lakh. The Government of India has released the entire amount. Another Project, IDDP-II, was approved by the Government of India with a total outlay of Rs. 934. 28 lakhs in December, 2000, to be implemented over a period of three years. An amount of Rs. 191.49 lakh was released during the year 2000-01 as first installment. The State Government of Andhra Pradesh has informed that the funds have been transferred to Andhra Pradesh Dairy Development Cooperative Federation Ltd. for the implementation of the project and the implementation of the project is in progress.

ICAR Centres in NER

1784. SHRI RISHANG KEISHING: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ICAR Centres/branches opened in the North Eastern States;

(b) their activities and achievements; and

(c) the benefits being made available to the local population by them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) The detials are given in Statement-I, II and III, respectively.

Statement-I

The number of ICAR Centres/Branches opened in the North Eastern States

Crop Science:

- CRRI Regional Station, Gerua, Assam
- CRIJAF Regional Station, Sorbhog, Assam
- NBPGR Regional Station, Shillong, Meghalaya

Horticulture:

- CPCRI Regional Station, Kahi Kuchi (Assam)
- Central Potato Research Station, Shillong